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IRIDIAN
CREAM CRACKERS

MARGINAL COLUMN By NISSIM REJWAN

SYRIA is rapidly assuming S Egypt's role as the chief trouble-maker in the Arab world, and there are indications that it is the Syrian army, intelligence services, under Colonel Sarraf, which is the real engine of the present disturbances in the Lebanon. The Syrian scene today can perhaps best be described as a state of permanent coup d'etat, where the insurgents and the existing regime still find it possible to live side by side in what is a state of pseudo-co-existence. It is a state of affairs not unlike the one which prevailed in Jordan for a number of months prior to King Hussein's coup. Shukri Kuwari, Syria's vacillating President, the majority of the veteran politicians and a section of the Syrian army are all headed by the C-in-C, General Tawfiq Nizamuddin, now stand face to face with a scheming and well-equipped group of army officers, led by a handful of hard-headed politicians, led by the Arab Bath (Resurgence) Party and, less directly, by the relatively powerful Communist Party of Syria.

Clearly, such a situation cannot go on for long. The conflict will have to be resolved one way or another, and recent developments and movements indicate that the final showdown is not very far off. It is difficult to predict the result — or even the course which events will take. But, though the analogy with Jordan remains valid as far as it goes, it is fairly certain that the coming struggle for power in Syria will be tough and bloody; all things being equal, nothing remotely like King Hussein's walkover is conceivable in that country. For one thing, the Syrian army, now menaced with total isolation, is certain to make a last ditch stand in Syria. For another, Abdul Hamid Sarraf, Akram Houri and Khalid Bakdash now have the experiences of their Jordanian comrades to learn from — although they are far too deaf at this time to bring themselves to learn from the amateurish antics of Abu Nuwar, Nabulsi and Rimawi. They already have to their credit the remarkable success of their "revolutions" staged in Damascus early this year.

A DEVELOPMENT which may become a decisive factor in Syria's internal politics, and which will doubt give heart to whatever opposition forces exist there that are still ready to act, is the withdrawal of Syrian forces from Jordan last week and the fierce exchange of accusations which followed between the army commands of the two countries. The statement issued by the Arab Legion last Thursday, in which the Syrian forces were accused of having been the main instigator of the Jordanian statement and the ensuing press comment was not only that the Syrian people themselves were innocent of the Syrian army's machinations but that the Syrian Army and leaders were themselves being cowed by an "adventurous" Syrian army. "Al-Jihad" indeed went so far as to pledge Jordan's help in any move by the Syrian people to shake off its fetters.

THAT Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Jordan should be anxious to see a more stable regime in Syria is hardly surprising. Syria — even more than Egypt — now stands in the way of whatever overall arrangement these countries may be contemplating for the area. If it is true that Saudi Arabia has agreed to give Iraq a free hand to go ahead with her long-chestered plans for the union of the Fertile Crescent (not to be confused with the Greater Syria plan) then Nuri Said must be very eager to seize his opportunity, because of the difficulties presented by the problem of Hussein's future status and the fact that Iraq's consent would have to be solicited and obtained before any such arrangement could materialize. But without an accommodating regime in Syria itself, Iraq cannot even begin to consider the scheme seriously. The outcome of the present struggle in Syria is thus not only of decisive importance to that country's future but to the future of inter-Arab relations, but also a matter of concern to the whole area.

Four injured in Negev Mine Blast

Jerusalem Post Reporter
Four soldiers were wounded, one seriously, while kibbutz Army vehicles drove over two mines on Friday morning near Kibbutz Kerem Avraham, near the southern end of the Gaza Strip, the Army spokesman announced last night.

One of the vehicles was severely damaged. The incident took place at a spot about one-and-a-half kilometres from the border. During the week a number of mines had been found in the area. It was reported, however, that these two mines had been laid during the course of the previous night, since other vehicles had passed over the spot during the day before.

The two Israeli patrol vehicles were moving along the road when, at about 11 o'clock in the morning, the front tires of the second one ran over two mines that had been laid on either side of the road. The vehicle blew up and turned over. Four soldiers were wounded and a fifth soldier suffered shock. Several other soldiers were hurt from the debris by the force of the blast.

Meanwhile, it was learned that infiltrators from the Gaza Strip have harvested and stolen wheat valued at £140,000 from the kibbutz. Bror Hayil in the Western Negev, during the past two weeks. At Kfar Azza, near the Gaza Strip border, infiltrators have stolen 300 bales of hay, 100 bales of straw, and 50 sacks of wheat valued at £14,700, during the last five weeks.

Tracks made by camels leading from the place of the theft over the border were found. U.N.E.F. units stationed on the other side of the border stated that they saw camels carrying wheat bales crossing from Israel into the Strip, but were not able to catch it. A cow and a mule, stolen from the kibbutz, were found in the night, were found concealed in a road near the Gaza Strip by police on Friday. The infiltrators were not seen.

Italian Writers Urge Israel-Arab Peace
ROME, Saturday (Reuters). — A group of prominent Italian intellectuals yesterday called on Israel and the Arab nations to achieve a state of peaceful co-existence which alone can assure the liberty and real independence of all the Middle Eastern peoples. A declaration was issued here at a meeting of writers and journalists. Dr. Jacob Majum, of the Mapam Party, was present.

The signatories, who included the Italian novelist Mr. Alberto Moravia and Mr. Carlo Levi, said Mr. Jean-Paul Sartre, the French philosopher and dramatist, had expressed his complete agreement with the declaration.

Rebels Massacre Over 300 Algerians

ALGIERS, Saturday (Reuters). — French troops are combing the rugged mountains near Setif, Eastern Algeria, for an insurgent band which carried out the bloodiest "reprisal" massacre in which 302 Moslem youths and men perished. While military authorities gave the number of the slaughtered at the villages as 302, unconfirmed reports said that the final count might bring the death toll to more than 400.

The Moslems from Melouza village and other hamlets near La Casbah were shot dead, hacked to pieces with knives and axes or bludgeoned to death, French officials said. Troops found corpses piled up in the streets and women and children hysterical with fear.

Gather All Males
Some of the survivors told the soldiers how a band of about 150 insurgents, split into groups of a dozen, burst into the mountain hamlets on Tuesday night. They gathered together all the males and slaughtered them in groups. Military authorities said the massacre started when the villagers protested to the insurgents against the killing of a father and his four sons in a neighbouring village. The insurgents suspected them of being pro-French.

The military authorities said the band had arrived in the region recently from Tunisia. In Paris, President Rene Coty in a nation-wide broadcast last night drew the attention of "international opinion" to the massacre, and said there was "not a Frenchman who was not revolted" by the outrage.

Carried Out Orders
These abominations are not just the work of a few bandits," he said. "The killers continued to carry out the orders of their leaders, the same leaders who only yesterday were talking of the freedom of a foreign radio station glorified in the treacherous assassination of one more Moslem guilty of loving France. M. Coty was referring to the fatal shooting of Ali Chakkal, a prominent pro-French Algerian leader, last Sunday.

Makarios Insists On Self-Determination
ATHENS, Saturday (Reuters). — Archbishop Makarios told foreign correspondents yesterday that he rejects any proposals for a Cyprus solution "envoying any continuance of colonial status." He said only a solution based on self-determination — with equal rights for the Turkish minority — would be considered.

However, he added, development in Cyprus and internationally have created new conditions. The enosis leader alleged Government "terrorism" in the form of executions, collective punishments, imprisonment without trial, and said, "Little is known of the utterly inhuman methods of torture resorted to by the British in Cyprus." He said he holds proof of these acts.

Poland to Get \$95m. U.S. Aid

WASHINGTON, Saturday (UP). — Poland's economic situation is improving, and it is expected to return to Warsaw soon with a \$95m. aid agreement. Tentative plans have been made to sign here next week the commercial agreement to aid the Warsaw Government.

Poland will receive \$57.7m. worth of cotton, \$22m. worth of wheat, \$10m. worth of coal and oil, and \$4m. of food and clothing machinery and equipment. Another \$13.3m. will be provided to pay transportation costs.

Poland also will get a \$20m. loan from President Eisenhower's "aid emergency fund." This loan will be administered by the Export-Import Bank.

Socialists to Meet On Pflimlin Policy
PARIS, Saturday. — The Socialist Party of outgoing Premier Guy Mollet, on whose decision depends the Cabinet-making efforts of M. Pierre Pflimlin, Catholic Popular Republican (C.R.P.), summoned its National Council to a meeting tomorrow to examine the programme he has outlined.

The liberal Catholic leader, who had said he would give up if he failed to secure the backing of the Socialists, plans to limit his programme to the most urgent problems: housing, agriculture, and early ratification of the European common market and Euratom treaties.

M. Pflimlin met President Coty and then discussed the economic situation with the Governor-General of the Bank of France, M. Wilfrid Baumgartner.

He had met with the Socialist leaders for three hours early this morning. M. Pflimlin told reporters he intended to press ahead with his plan to form a broad-based Government.

Lebanese Premier Says Foreign Elements Cause Disturbances

U.K. Frees £6m. for Egypt
CAIRO, Saturday (UP). — Egypt today announced that Britain has agreed to release about £6m. to cover Egyptian purchases contracted for before Egypt nationalised the Suez Canal.

Hasan Abbas Elzaki, who headed the Egyptian delegation to the Suez financial talks with Britain which recessed in Rome earlier this week, made the announcement after conferring with Finance Minister Abdul El Kalaoui. Zaki said that each side involved in the Rome talks was reporting to its Government and the result "will be resumed later," although the place and date have not been fixed.

Pensions Transfer
Simultaneously, a Finance Ministry spokesman said Egypt had decided to permit the transfer of pensions paid to British subjects who once worked for the Egyptian Government.

Shuffle in Syrian Cabinet Seen
Finance Minister Dr. Asad Mahasini told reporters in Damascus that he intended to resign as soon as the Syrian Cabinet approved the new Agency for the Arab World.

British Forces Quit Mafraq Air Base
The last British air force convoy left Mafraq on Friday after the British Ambassador, Mr. Charles Johnston, had handed over the base to King Hussein in an official ceremony.

Malik: Israel Must Not be Aggressive
By MAURICE CARR, Jerusalem Post Correspondent
PARIS, Saturday. — The Lebanese Foreign Minister, Charles Malik, in an interview published in "Figaro" by its Paris correspondent, Max Gluck, posed two conditions for an Arab-Israeli settlement.

Egyptian Publications Barred from Jordan
The Jordan Government yesterday banned all Egyptian publications from entering the country, Baghdad Radio reported. The ban includes books, Arabic and foreign language publications.

Turk-Arab Ties Firm—Menderes
BAGHDAD, Saturday (Reuters). — Premier Adnan Menderes of Turkey stressed in a radio broadcast last night that strong links bind Turkey and the Arab states despite "all sorts of mischievous and provocative propaganda."

High Court Admits Impulse Plea, Quashes Mizan Sentence

Legal history was made on Friday when the Supreme Court quashed the Tel Aviv District Court's conviction of Victor Mizen, 32, in June 1953, on a charge of raping and murdering a girl aged 3½. The District

**Ruling Today on Appeal
Against Heruti Bail**

tion today on the appeal of the State Attorney against

the release on bail of Ya'akov Heruti, charged before the Tel Aviv District Court with membership in a terrorist organization and slandering a magistrate.

Heruti was released on bail last week by the Tel Aviv District Court after having been committed for trial by a Tel Aviv magistrate. (Times)

day while under an irresistible impulse caused by mental illness. The two dispassionate judges agreed that the person charged, Heruti, was responsible for criminal acts which he committed while under such an irresistible impulse, but took the view that the present state of Israel law did not admit of such a defense.

At his trial in the District Court, Mizrahi had denied that he was in any way insane, and preferred to base his defense solely on alibi. On his appeal, however, he abandoned his resistance to the insanity plea, and agreed

by his counsel, Mr. Y. Heik, as an alternative defense.

lating a court order not to publish the name of Mary Francis Hagen, the U.S. citizen found guilty of espionage and whose trial was held in camera. (Item)

(A summary of this inde-

The Deputy State Attorney, Mrs. Ben Porath, had asked that the Court should hand down a ruling on the matter of irresistible impulse.

Mental Home

The majority of the Supreme Court, in quashing his

**Local Council Staff
Rejects Pay in Protest**
NAHARIYA, Saturday. — Local Council employees refused to accept their May salaries yesterday because the seniority pay they have been getting was not paid this time. The special allowance had been

The allowance was cancelled

by order of the Clerk's Union whose representative informed the Local Council that the employees have now been graded according to the same pay scales as civil servants. These do not enjoy

seniority allowances.

Miller Charged With Contempt of Congress
WASHINGTON, Saturday (Reuter). — Arthur Miller, playwright husband of the film actress Marilyn Monroe, was found guilty yesterday of contempt of Congress.

Immigration Department. This is the largest number of immigrants to have been refused

meeting of 10 U.S. Communists
som 16 years ago.

The Only Exception to The Rule

Who enjoys the benefit of Income Tax reductions? The giants! Who gets the most publicity? Large Companies, of course! Who gets special

parts in styling and illustrating all his advertisements, whether personal or business.

And something extra through

attention and services from the Press? Surely the big placing your advertisements with Dahaf — we post all

Until now only the large companies, institutions and organizations enjoyed the benefits of professional publicity experts.

But now the ice is broken! Dahaf Advertising Company has opened a new chapter in these advertisements in our show window at 123 Allenby Road (Tel. 3557). Tel Aviv. These advertisements are read by thousands of pedestrians passing by our windows. If the clients so wish, we are prepared to give explanations to all the passersby who may require further information.

All these services are in-

**STOP FOOLING THE PUBLIC,
STICK TO THE FACTS**

By SAMUEL DUBINER

In January 1987 the grapefruit was falling off the trees. They could not be picked and packed as usual because of lack of ships to export them.

In January 1987 I advised the Government that the segment canning industry was anxious to buy this grapefruit in the large sites including Brara.

IL100 a ton on the tree offered to CMB

I said the segment cannery were ready to pay IL100

a ton on the tree for fresh grapefruit in the large sizes 64, 80, 96, 112, including brara. In February the segment cannot offer any surplus for the C. S. 1954-55.

I sold IL100 a ton on the tree for these large sizes including brava was a fair price and showed as good a profit to the grower as export of this same grapefruit fresh.

The CMB wrote the Government that the net income to the grower was IL140 a ton on the tree for this grapefruit.

One member of the CMB wrote the net income to the grower was IL150 a ton on the tree for this grapefruit.

Mr. Polany of Paredes Syndicate said that the net income to the grower was \$145 a ton on the ton for this

Now the CMB still claim that this fruit will give the grower IL131.340 per ton fresh packed.

Recently Mr. Polany wrote this fruit would give the grower IL130 per ton on the tree.

More recently Mr. Polany said that this fruit of the large sizes including brava would give the grower IL150 a ton on the tree.

The Facts are that the large sizes of 40, 50, 112 in-

including brara will bring the grower less than 1L100 a ton on the tree for the season just finished.

It should be remembered that these people are the "experts" who are supposed to know all there is to know about marketing citrus.

These are the people who kept the factories idle by giving misleading information to the canners, the Government and the public. They caused losses to the growers, the canners and the Government by their refusal to sell this grapefruit to the canners for segment canning.

Waste Growers' Money

Now the CME spends thousands of pounds of the citrus growers' money to advertise another distortion of fact

about the pound rate to the dollar for canned segment export compared to export of fresh grapefruit.

Expect more Misleading Statements from CMB

It seems that the Citrus Marketing Board will leave no stone unturned to distort the true facts. You can expect all sorts of misleading information, even at the expense of Israel production and export.

* (The second in a series of 3 articles).

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U.K. Newspapers Fighting Losing Battle

By W. K. LAQUEUR

LONDON. — The House of Commons agreed recently to a motion moved by Mr. A. Kershaw (Conservative, Stroud) that "this House, recognizing the great importance of a free and independent press, views with concern some recent examples of newspaper reporting, and is of the opinion that a vigorous effort by the industry itself to maintain a high standard of conduct would be desirable."

The acceptance of this motion, couched in somewhat general terms, does not mean anything in practice, but it reflects the considerable concern about the present state of affairs of the British press that has been palpable here of late.

There have been some spectacular developments: The B.B.C. is to close down the radio programme, the Home and the Light programme, and merge to a certain extent, implying a lowering of the present level. "Picture Post" is to be closed down; the "Daily Herald" and the "News Chronicle" are allegedly to merge and so are according to apparently false news, the "Evening Standard," "Time and Tide" and "Truth."

Censorship of Imports
 At the same time Messrs. W. J. & J. have announced that they will have to introduce some control or pre-emptive censorship, for according to present legislation they are held responsible for any libelous statements in these papers and magazines. Carried to its logical conclusion this would mean that every single issue of every foreign paper would have to be read by local lawyers, and that is a task which is not only a waste of time but also a burden on the government.

Lastly, there has been a deterioration in the standard of the popular press, and the quality of the popular press, it is a fact that the pursuit of the exceptional and the sensational are unreasonably exploited and that the quality of the popular press is not as high as it should be. What is wrong with the popular press is not any specific outrage, but the general decline of late but rather the whole policy of the elevation of the trivial into a position of paramount importance. According to the Parliamentary debate...

Large numbers of (people) did not regard their newspapers as a means of absorbing news about serious events, but rather as a means of diverting themselves for a time. Perhaps it is not surprising that the quality of the popular press is not as high as it should be. What is wrong with the popular press is not any specific outrage, but the general decline of late but rather the whole policy of the elevation of the trivial into a position of paramount importance. According to the Parliamentary debate...

Behind all this are several basic facts, that is, that most of the newspapers have been fighting a losing struggle against television over the last years. They have lost about £20m. in advertising to TV, and the demise of "Pic-

ture Post" is certainly mainly due to the emergence of this new medium. The special kind of social reporting in which "Picture Post" excelled a decade ago or so has now been taken over by television.

High Production Costs

The cost of newspaper has gone up more than six times since World War II — and paper and ink alone account for between a third and a half of a newspaper's total expenditure. The income of most papers, on the other hand, has not increased in the same proportion, which means that a circulation of two millions is now the very minimum which a national daily requires to keep afloat and even among those that are profitable there are some that find themselves in economic difficulties.

For circulation is only one part of the picture; revenue from advertising is the other. And it can be stated, broadly speaking, that while the "Daily Mirror" has overtaken the "Daily Express" so far as sales are concerned, the latter now has a clear lead in advertising. This is due to the fact that the "Daily Mirror" is more concerned with the general public, while the "Daily Express" is more concerned with the business community.

Some observers have suggested that the government should take up part of the burden by subsidizing the price of newspaper. Many have suggested that the government should take up part of the burden by subsidizing the price of newspaper. Many have suggested that the government should take up part of the burden by subsidizing the price of newspaper.

Yours, etc.

MILAN MARKOVIC
 Secretary of the Yugoslav Legation
 Tel Aviv, May 27.

ASHKELON INDUSTRIES

Editor, The Jerusalem Post
 Sir, — With reference to the item in your last Friday's issue entitled "Russia Gives Syrian Base," I wish to state in the name of the Yugoslav Legation that the information contained therein, insofar as it affects Yugoslavia, was entirely untrue and devoid of any foundation.

Yours, etc.

MRS. F. SONNABEND
 Ashkelon, May 28.

MUSICAL DIARY

"Les Compagnons de la Chanson" — First Appearance (L.O.A. Garden Auditorium, May 29).
 The French popular song can hardly be compared to any of another nation. Whether it is sad or gay, serious or comic, it always contains that certain dose of the characteristic French spirit with which none other can compete and this nine-man ensemble is certainly an ideal interpreter of it.

Their is mostly two-part singing with an additional solo voice (a beautiful voice too) which is strictly disciplined although it gives the impression of being spontaneously improvised.

This alone is already a great achievement but it is not all, for in addition to being fine singers the group are accomplished comedians in their simulated naïveté. Every number they present is a real act of comedy in which they deploy good-humoured mimicry. Moreover, they employ very skillfully a certain number of musical instruments such as the guitar, the violin or the piano, and thus the entertainment becomes really complete.

If there is a certain reservation we should like to point out, it is the unusual length of the programme. Some 30 numbers within barely two hours is rather more than desirable.

AVIDOM
 Tel. Yisrael Orchestra — Strips
 Presidential conductor: Alisa
 Lewandowska. Music: soprano
 (V.M.A., May 29). Main
 Alexander: "Ukraine" symphony
 (first performance).
 Mahler: "Kindertotenlieder"
 Beethoven: "Leonore Overture
 No. 3."

intervention is viewed with great apprehension. But the present state of affairs, too, is, or in any case soon will be, something in the nature of a near-monopoly which is not exactly conducive to the ideals of a free press.

It should be added in this context that though the quality dailies have not done badly as far as their circulation is concerned over the last years, neither the "Guardian" nor "The Times" has improved in quality. The "Manchester Guardian" in effect is now the danger of becoming again what it originally was — a well-written provincial paper but not much more than that. It has quite a number of brilliant contributors and is written elegantly but its news coverage is erratic (to say the least) and its editorial comment rather too frequently commonplace.

Coverage Not Complete

The news coverage of "The Times" is a mixture of dealing especially about the British Commonwealth, but there are whole areas of the world which hardly exist as far as the "Times" is concerned. Among them are — or in any case were, until recently — Russia and Eastern Europe. Now "The Times" has a correspondent in Moscow again, but he seems preoccupied with the medical uses of weak electric currents.

In addition, the paper's self-imposed limitation of dealing only with official facts is of course a great hindrance; for in many parts of the world the dividing line between official facts and rumours cannot be easily established, and elsewhere the "rumours" may be of greater importance and more truthful than the official facts. Be that as it may, Londoners who really want to know what does happen on the continent of Europe, or in the Middle East, supplement their British papers (among which the "Daily Telegraph" now probably affords the fullest coverage) with such continental papers as "Le Monde," "Corriere della Sera" or "Neue Zürcher Zeitung". This, too, is an innovation, for until recently it was a time when the "Times" or "The Guardian", or both, were regarded sufficient for the well-informed Briton.

should think and plan logically.

Yours, etc.

M.J.S.
 (Name and Address Supplied)
 Ramat Gan, May 24.

TELEVISION

Editor, The Jerusalem Post
 Sir, — I should like to protest against Dan Bavi's statement in today's issue of your paper, that "whether you like it or not you and your family will have to see television in Israel within two or three years."

I do not like it! Israel does not have a proper telephone network and it is some 30 years behind the times, by most Western standards. As regards telephone coverage, to correct this, we are told that some 11,300 are needed. Every day the list of people awaiting the installation of a telephone gets longer.

Most of the equipment needed for telephones is either already made in Israel or can be manufactured here. I understand that the Ministry has to be found before the post office can order it. As a result, the Israel telephone industry is working well under capacity and the largest plant, situated in an area of new immigrant settlement, is actually dismissing workers instead of helping absorb new ones.

Let us put first things first. A good telephone network must be built. If IL20m. is not available, then let a start be made — a real start. Let us not waste part, or all of it, on a luxury project which is to be financed by the State (TV services) in Egypt and the Lebanon. Let the TV set in Israel not become a parallel to the Cadillac in Saudi Arabia. We

tense interpretation of the League, which the conductor brought to a most satisfying level.

English Music

A Concert of English Music presented by the British Council, Brucke Eden-Alexander-Wolkowsky, Duo-Finalists, Nara Reicher, (Tel. 433, May 29). Elizabethan Suite: F. Nichols; Haifa: a solo for Cello and Piano; H. Eccles, Sonata in G minor for Cello and Piano; R. Vaughan-Williams: Introduction and Fugue; W. Walton: Vale and Popular Song from "Pavane."

The idea of presenting music according to "nationality" sometimes helps to make acquaintance with unknown or forgotten works of general importance, apart from helping to promote better understanding of other nations through their culture. The works offered were not of outstanding quality — Nos. 2 and 5 were even outright boring — but with the aid of excellent programmes, they provided the listener with examples of different periods, styles and personalities. The arrangement of Elizabethan pieces awakened nostalgia for the period of musical creation, sung by a good choir ensemble. The "Ritornel" choir under Gary Bertin seems to be the obvious choice.

Our duo-finalists performed their part with diligence and loving care for details, making the best of uneven instruments, of which the one provided by Kol Yisrael is too old for a recital. Marc Roselars played the pleasant Sonatina by Arthur Benjamin and the well known Eccles with fine understanding, well accompanied by Alexander Wolkowsky, who thus disclosed an additional talent.

Y. BONEH



Five Hours to Eilat—By Road

By DAN BAVLY

BY September, when the road to Eilat is completed, the trip from Tel Aviv will take only five hours. Mr. M. Shoham, Chief Engineer of the Southern District, told the Knesset Labour Committee during their recent visit to the Negev.

"This is more than an improved road; it is a new lifeline for the country, connecting the Committee's Chairman, Mr. Akiva Gorrin, by the time the road was over. Over this lifeline, heavy trucks will maintain the connection between industrial and agricultural Israel, and its southern port. By its side, villages and small towns will be built, and help maintain it. Among these are three that are being established this year.

Road-Building Revolution

When completed, the stretch from Eilat to Beer-sheva by way of the Ramon will be 245 km. long. Almost 80 km. of it were in first-class condition before the Sinal Campaign, and the Ministry of Labour is now investing IL2.5m. on the remaining 165 km. The road will be entirely new, shortening the trip by seven kilometres, avoiding "Amshush Alley" where a man was killed and three more wounded last month, and calling for the removal of 100,000 cubic metres of earth. The remaining 125 km. will have to be asphalted. The Sinal Campaign has marked a revolution in road-building, leading to complete abandonment of wages account for only one-quarter of the cost, while asphalt, mixed with local stone, takes up

one-half and machinery the rest. It costs some IL15,000 to pave a kilometre of road in the Negev.

There are four evenly spaced asphalt-mixing sites along the road. The nearest Beer-sheva is in charge of Mr. B. Ostrovsky, one of the founders of Eilat Harod, who left his kibbutz for the Negev a few years ago because "unless I continued to work with my hands, building, I'd become a bureaucrat, which would be a contradiction of my socialist beliefs." He is a tanned, bespectacled man of 60, and he symbolizes as much as the younger men working with him, the new frontier life of efficient but hard-working pioneering.

The machinery on hand is ingenious if simple. Bulldozers feed the mixing sites with stone. The asphalt mixture is dropped into trucks, then taken up and laid on by the steamroller in the exact quantity required. There are only two rollers in operation on the road, the one coming in from the North, and the other from the South, and each moves an average of nearly 600 metres a day, but could move at 800. Cars can drive on the road as soon as the roller has paved it.

Grain and Minerals

There is hardly any green to be seen along the road south of Beer-sheva, but the Beduin have had a good year, and along the whole way extraordinary large areas of grain are being harvested. The new settlers of the Negev believe that with cheap water from the Central Negev may be the country's main granary, and for the traveller who sees this year's harvest the idea does not sound Utopian.

It is not agriculture, however, that is destined to supply most of the Negev's income, but mining — and the climate. The people of Mitze Ramon will be employed in the gypsum mines and other deposits of the Ramon, and establish a rest home or a hotel at one of Israel's most beautiful sites.

Until the road is completed, subsidies for the transfer of consumers goods and other goods from the North to Eilat are costing the Government IL2m. a year. Mr. I. Eilat, Director-General of the Ministry of Labour, told the Committee during the tour, adding that this could be cut down to one-quarter once the road is paved.

PEN FRIENDS

MR. MANOHU HASUMI, 16, of 149 Talma Maiva-mura, Oeraka, Gunma-ken, Japan, is a high school student who would be very grateful to hear from Israelis.

Yours, etc.

ERICH FRANKENHEIM
 Tel Aviv, May 26.

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

Editor, The Jerusalem Post
 Sir, — Like most of the people living in Israel, I was deeply shocked by the series of thefts carried out by several high-school students in Tel Aviv.

Mr. Mindlin correctly pointed out in his column of May 27 that "it is not the delinquents, but society that is at fault." The parents, the educational authorities, the political leaders of Israel — all have a share in creating an atmosphere of such low moral content. When the school emphasizes bagrut (meaning both matriculation and honesty) based on the attainment in the field of scholarship alone and pays little attention to spiritual development, delinquency is encouraged.

On the other hand, in contrast with Mr. Mindlin, and as an educator, I am inclined to agree with the psychiatrist who assigned part of the blame to "an ill-structured system based on too much freedom for the pupil."

The increasing secularization of the school system here has led to a lifting of moral sanctions and unless checked will breed similar scandals.

Yours, etc.

DR. MORDECHAI LEVINE
 Ramat Gan, May 27.

Sir, — Mr. Mindlin quoted me as having spoken about an educational system based on too much freedom for the pupils.

DR. REUVEN MAYER
 Government Mental Hospital
 Beer Yaakov, May 23.

New Centre Honours Brodetsky

By LUCIEN HARRIS

THOUSANDS of immigrants from Britain now living in Israel will welcome the dedication this week, by the Government of Israel and the Jewish Agency, of a commodious hostel in London.



University President

It was a matter of great pride to him that, after long service on the Board of Governors of the Hebrew University, he was invited to become its President. Unfortunately, ill-health came upon him soon after he came to live in Jerusalem, and that deprived Israel's educational system of the distilled wisdom which he could have brought from his academic experience in Britain.

Of his service as a mathematician to the Allied cause in the two World Wars, and his contribution to the creation of the Air Training Corps in Britain, others will speak, according him due praise. Jews will chiefly remember him as a tireless and faithful ambassador who brought acute powers of analysis to bear on current Jewish affairs, who combined in himself a rich store of Hebrew learning and a wide European culture which stemmed from his Cambridge career.

When the war broke out in 1939, Brodetsky's election as President of the Board of Deputies of British Jews combined widespread satisfaction and it was largely due to his dignified and skilful leadership that Anglo-Jewish maintained its courageous and united opposition to the anti-Zionist policies of the day.

This busy man of affairs also found time for social civility in Leeds, where he was held in high regard by his fellow-citizens.

Friday's Press

who sent in their greetings from abroad can call Maki a progressive force of any kind.

The Six Teenagers

Hakober (General Zionist) writes that the first of the present batch of teenage boys of good families have been found guilty of crime shows how great and dangerous is the void in the education of our maturing youth. The "breach inviting the thief" must be

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